

1. A method for generating a digital representation of an image, comprising:
 - (a) applying visible and infrared light to an image storing medium which includes the image;
 - (b) directing said visible and infrared light which is reflected from or transmitted through said image storing medium to a reflective surface, wherein said visible light is reflected by said reflective surface towards a first sensor and said infrared light is transmitted through said reflective surface towards a second sensor;
 - (c) detecting said visible light which is reflected from or transmitted through said image storing medium at said first sensor in order to provide a first image signal; and
 - (d) detecting said infrared light which is reflected from or transmitted through said image storing medium at said second sensor in order to provide a second image signal;
- whereby said second image signal may be used to modify said first image signal to generate a modified digital representation of said image.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said visible and infrared light are applied to the image storing medium from the same light source.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein said visible and infrared light are applied to the image storing medium from separate light sources.
4. The method of claim 2, wherein the optical distance between said image storing medium and said first sensor is different from the optical distance between said image storing medium and said second sensor.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein said visible and infrared light are simultaneously applied to said image storing medium.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said first sensor comprises a trilinear CCD array.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein said second sensor comprises one or more linear CCD arrays.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein said image storing medium comprises film, and wherein said steps of detecting visible and infrared light comprise detecting light which is transmitted through said film.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein said reflective surface comprises a cold mirror.

10. A method for generating a digital representation of an image, comprising:

(a) applying visible and infrared light to an image storing medium which includes the image;

5 (b) directing said visible and infrared light which is reflected from or transmitted through said image storing medium to a reflective surface, wherein said visible light is transmitted through said reflective surface towards a first sensor and said infrared light is reflected by said reflective surface towards a second sensor and;

10 (c) detecting said visible light which is reflected from or transmitted through said image storing medium at said first sensor in order to provide a first image signal;

(d) detecting said infrared light which is reflected from or transmitted through said image storing medium at said second sensor in order to provide a second image signal; and

15 whereby said second image signal may be used to modify said first image signal to generate a modified digital representation of said image.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said visible and infrared light are applied to the image storing medium from the same light source.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein said visible and infrared light are applied to the image storing medium from separate light sources.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the optical distance between said image storing medium and said first sensor is different from the optical distance between said image storing medium and said second sensor.

14. The method of claim 10, wherein said visible and infrared light are simultaneously applied to said image storing medium.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein said first sensor comprises a trilinear CCD array.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said second sensor comprises one or more linear CCD arrays.

17. The method of claim 10, wherein said image storing medium comprises film, and wherein said steps of detecting visible and infrared light comprise detecting light which is transmitted through said film.

18. The method of claim 10 wherein said reflective surface comprises a hot mirror.

19. A system for use in generating a digital representation of an image, comprising:

- (a) one or more light sources operable to apply first and second types of light to an image storing medium having an image;
- (b) a first sensor responsive to at least said first type of light;

(c) a second sensor responsive to at least said second type of light;
and

10 (d) a reflective surface which reflects said first type of light and
transmits said second type of light, said reflective surface positioned such
that when said first and second types of light are applied to an image
storing medium, said first type of light which is reflected from or
transmitted through said image storing medium will be reflected towards
said first sensor and said second type of light which is reflected from or
transmitted through said image storing medium will be transmitted
15 through said reflective surface towards said second sensor.

20. The system of claim 19, wherein said system is configured such that said
first type of light may be focused on said first sensor, and said second type of
light may be focused on said second sensor.

21. The system of claim 19, wherein said system is configured such that the
optical distance between said image storing medium and said first sensor and
the optical distance between said image storing medium and said second sensor
may be adjusted independently of one another.

22. The system of claim 19, wherein said reflective surface is chosen from the
group consisting of a hot mirror and a cold mirror.

23. The system of claim 19, wherein said first type of light comprises visible
light, and said second type of light comprises infrared light.

24. The system of claim 19, wherein said first type of light comprises infrared
light, and said second type of light comprises visible light.

25. The system of claim 19, further comprising single light source operable
to apply said first type and said second type of light to an image storing medium.

26. The system of claim 19, wherein said system comprises a scanner.

27. The system of claim 26, wherein said first type of light comprises visible light, said second type of light comprises infrared light, said first sensor comprises a trilinear CCD array and said second sensor comprises one or more linear CCD arrays.

28. The system of claim 26, wherein said first type of light comprises infrared light, said second type of light comprises visible light, said second sensor comprises a trilinear CCD array and said first sensor comprises one or more linear CCD arrays.

29. A digital representation of an image, generated by the method comprising:

(a) applying a visible and infrared light to an image storing medium which includes the image;

5

(b) directing said visible and infrared light which is reflected from or transmitted through said image storing medium to a reflective surface, wherein one of said visible and infrared light is reflected by said reflective surface towards a first sensor and the other is transmitted through said reflective surface towards a second sensor;

10

(c) detecting said visible light which is reflected from or transmitted through said image storing medium in order to provide a first image signal;

(d) detecting said infrared light which is reflected from or transmitted through said image storing medium in order to provide a second image signal; and

15

(e) modifying said first image signal by said second image signal in order to generate a modified digital representation of said image.

30. The digital representation of claim 28, wherein said image includes surface defects, and wherein said surface defects are substantially absent in said digital representation of the image.

Handwritten: 1/11/12